

JET

Why Black Women Lawyers Have A Difficult Climb To Success

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CONTENTS

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Super Bowl MVP **LARRY BROWN** sits with Dallas Cowboys coach **BARRY SWITZER** during a news conference in Phoenix following the team's 27-17 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XXX **ON PAGE 51.**

BLACK HISTORY19

CENSUS18

CELEBRITIES59

COVER STORY.....56

EDUCATION.....22

ENTERTAINMENT60

HEALTH16

JET BEAUTY OF THE WEEK.....43

LAW & JUSTICE24

NATIONAL REPORT4

NEWSMAKERS32

PEOPLE20

**PEOPLE ARE TALKING
ABOUT65**

SOCIETY WORLD29

SPORTS46

TELEVISION66

THE WEEK'S BEST PHOTOS ... 41

JET'S TOP 20 ALBUMS62

TICKER TAPE.....10

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NATIONAL REPORT

Author Toni Morrison Named Jefferson Lecturer For 1996



Toni Morrison

Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison was recently named the 1996 Jefferson Lecturer in the Humanities by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The lectureship is the top honor given by the U.S. for distinguished intellectual achievement in the humanities.

A graduate of Howard University, Morrison, who became the first American woman and the first Black to ever receive the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1993, will deliver her lecture March 25 at the concert hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. She will receive a \$10,000 honorarium as part of the lectureship.

A native of Lorain, OH, Morrison teaches literature at Princeton University, where she was appointed Robert F. Goheen Professor in the Humanities in 1989.

In the past 25 years, she has written six acclaimed novels and won the 1977 National Book Critics Award for *Song of Solomon*, the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for *Beloved* and the 1993 Nobel Prize for Literature.

"Toni Morrison is one of America's greatest contemporary novelists," said NEH Chairman Dr. Sheldon Hackney.

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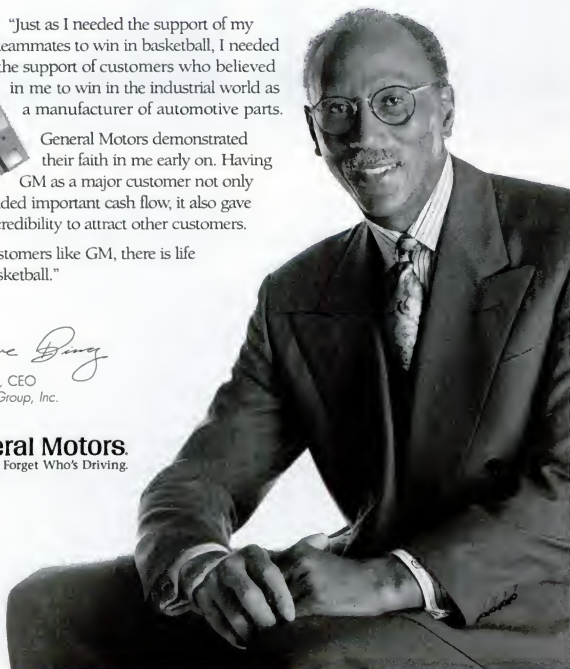
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▲ Myrtle Shannon, 91, accepts her degree during commencement exercises at Roosevelt University in Chicago from the school's President Ted Gross. Ms. Shannon is jubilant after graduating in January with a bachelor of arts degree in history.

91-Year-Old Earns Bachelor's Degree At Chicago's Roosevelt Univ.

When Myrtle Shannon graduated from high school in Mississippi, she knew she wanted a college degree. Finally, almost 48 years later at age 91, she is a Roosevelt University graduate.

Ms. Shannon became Roosevelt University's oldest college graduate in January, earning a bachelor of arts degree in history.

"I'm very happy over it," she said about her accomplishment. "Other family members had their degree and I wanted what the others had."

She added that she hasn't thought twice about the length of time it has taken her to graduate.

"I didn't think about the time ele-

ment at all," she said. "It was just a matter of I wanted a degree like other members of my family."

An only child who never married or had children, Ms. Shannon has cousins, nieces and nephews who have completed college.

Another reason getting an education was so important to Ms. Shannon is because her grandfather who was a slave encouraged her to get as much education as she could. She said her grandfather, whom she called "Big Paw," followed the soldiers to Iowa after the Civil War in 1865. He got an education and returned to his hometown in Mississippi to teach.

After moving to Chicago with her mother, she enrolled in Chicago Business School and afterward landed a job at Underwriters Mutual Life Insurance Company where she worked



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for approximately 10 years.

Through President Franklin Roosevelt's Work Projects Administration (WPA), she got a job as a receptionist at the Social Security Administration. She worked for the administration for 34 years until retirement in 1973.

While working Ms. Shannon took college classes wherever and whenever she could, fitting them in after work, earning an associate's degree in 1967 from one of the Chicago City Colleges.

She enrolled in Roosevelt in 1984, choosing history as her major because

her mother was a history teacher. She added that she had always been fascinated by history and learning about how other people lived. She saved all her extra money in a separate account and used it to travel.

She is currently looking for a partner to travel to Singapore, a female companion for company who is paying her own way, she said.

Ms. Shannon advises young people that quitting school is a terrible mistake. "By all means to drop out of school is one of the worst things a youngster can do."

▼ **LOTTERY WINNER:** Kent Miller of Madison, TN, (2nd, r), winner of Kentucky's Powerball jackpot, shows off the oversized check for \$89.3 million at Kentucky Lottery Headquarters in Louisville, KY. The 34-year-old became one of America's wealthiest bachelors after hitting the number with a \$2 quick-pick ticket he bought in Oak Grove, KY. Miller will get more than \$3 million a year after taxes for 20 years. He said his immediate plan is to build his mother, Ocie Miller, a new home. He added that he will not return to work as a purchasing agent and hopes his mother will quit her job. Miller is flanked by (l-r) brothers Kenneth and Keith Miller and lawyer Martin E. Solomon.



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TICKER TAPE

by Simeon Booker, Washington Bureau Chief

Confidential: NAACPers are worried that **Myrlie Evers-Williams** will not run again for the post of chairman at the mid-February board meeting. She has been complaining of the workload. The fear is that if she decides not to seek the post, new rivalries could flare just as Baltimore Rep. **Kweisi Mfume** appears to have started a positive rebuilding process... Months before the Democratic convention in August to name President **Bill Clinton** as the party presidential candidate, the line has formed among Black artists to be among the ranking entertainers. Early favorites: **Aretha Franklin**, a known party fund-raiser, and popular actress **Lynn Whitfield**, who dates Rep. Mfume... On a month-long visit to some 15 African countries, Nation of Islam leader **Louis Farrakhan** hopes to line up an array of the heads of state for his upcoming mid-October Black Fam-

ily march. South Africa President **Nelson Mandela** is one of the VIPs in line to be invited by a 30-person-plus delegation which includes two ex-congressmen, **Gus Savage** and **Mervyn Dymally**, **Ben Chavis**, and **Faye Williams**... Backing a congressional gold medal for evangelist **Billy Graham** was N.Y. Rep. **Floyd Flake**, himself an AME pastor... The feat of a Black man who flew an ill-equipped, single engine plane 60 years ago from Chicago to Washington to prove to Congress that Blacks could fly planes is being celebrated during Black History Month. An exhibition at the National Air and Space Museum revives the struggle of **Chauncey E. Spencer**, who not only convinced Sen. **Harry Truman**, but later became the force behind the formation of the Tuskegee Airmen... Visitor: Uganda Prime Minister **Kintu Musoke** on a 10-day mission to attract venture capital.

National Headliners

Twin sisters **Yvette Heyliger** of NYC and **Yvonne Farrow** of LA raised more than \$20,000 to promote their play *Home Girl* at the Hollywood Court Theater during February. Daughters of the late D.C. band leader



Myrlie Evers-Williams

Frank Hinton, the sisters not only wrote but also produced their work... **C. Delores Tucker** sponsored a reception to honor Energy Secretary **Hazel O'Leary**... Howard U. honored the late Dr. **Ralph Bunche**, the first Black to win a Nobel Peace Prize and ex-faculty member, by naming its new International Affairs Center for him.



Louis Farrakhan

Newport

A man in a blue trench coat and a woman in a red dress and black jacket are dancing joyfully under a large blue umbrella. The background is a solid green color. The man is holding the umbrella handle, and both are smiling and looking at each other.

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Why Black Women Lawyers Have A Difficult Climb To Success



◀ *Sharon McPhail, former president of the National Bar Association, says Black women have a difficult climb to success because "When they (Whites) are thinking about who to help advance, you (Black women) just don't come to mind."*

The window of opportunity for Black women is even smaller and maybe non-existent.

Attorney Sharon McPhail, a past president of the National Bar Association, said she does not believe the opportunities for Black women in the profession have increased at all. She told JET that she has watched low-level opportunities develop for Black women, but the rise to success

The climb to success in the legal profession has always been harder for women than men. For Black women lawyers, the climb is even more difficult.

The number of women in the legal profession has grown significantly, but their power has not. A study by the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on the Status of Women Lawyers said that in 1995 women accounted for about 23 percent of all lawyers, up from 13 percent in 1985. But the study also found that the percentage of women who have attained partnership status in law firms is still in the low teens despite the fact that women have comprised no less than one third of all lawyers admitted to practice since 1985.

▼ *National Bar Association President Keith Watters says affirmative action has failed to create opportunities for Black women lawyers, making their climb to success more difficult.*



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NATIONAL REPORT

is very difficult, especially to partnership.

"When you are being considered for a partnership, such subjective things are taken into consideration such as how you fit in or how you get along with the group, and it has to do with a lot of cultural similarities to them."

She added that White women have achieved much more success in the legal profession than Black women.

"If they are going to promote women, they will promote their sisters and mothers before they promote you," she said.

Keith Watters, current president of the National Bar Association, agreed adding that affirmative action, while needed, has failed Black women in the profession, benefiting White women the most. Watters told JET that while the number of Black female lawyers has increased, their percentages have remained the same. "Affirmative action has only kept us at levels where we were 30 years ago," he said.

Minority women who participated in a joint study conducted by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession and The Commission on Opportunities for Minorities in the Profession said one of the barriers they face is the constant scrutiny by their male counterparts who question their competency and abilities.

McPhail, a well-respected attorney who has run for public office and is now a partner at Seikens, Vander Male, Stevens, Bellamy & Gilchrist in Detroit, said her competency has

NATIONAL REPORT

been challenged on numerous occasions.

"You have to prove yourself over and over again," she said. "If a White male even burps on cue, he comes to the attention of a mentoring type executive. Bias against Black women and people of color is a reality of our lives. People view different not as different but as not as good."

The Honorable Denise Page Hood, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan and past president of the Detroit Bar Association, said challenges to women judges may be fewer in number because "people don't want to offend you." But she said she keeps a positive attitude whenever her capabilities are questioned.

"I know I'm competent and a qualified person," she told JET about her confidence as a legal professional. "It just requires me to be very well prepared, and I treat people with respect and demand it back."

McPhail and Watters agree that more high-level Black female lawyers can be found in the government arena and that the private sector has not done well at all when it comes to advancing Black women.

According to the National Association for Law Placement Statistics on Employment of Women and Minorities, among 1993 law graduates, Black women lawyers represent 48 percent in private practice while White women represent 55 percent.

While overt racism and sexism still exist for Black women in the profession, McPhail said she believes a

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▲ *The Honorable Denise Page Hood says challenges to female lawyers' capabilities make the climb to success harder, but she keeps a positive attitude.*

lot of it is unconscious, and that people who are in charge, mostly White males, tend to gravitate toward people who are most like them.

"When they are thinking about who to help advance and to mentor, you (Black women) just don't come to mind," she said. "We are simply not a part of their consciousness. It's not an evil plot; it's a reality of the human experience."

Advice McPhail offers to young Black female attorneys is never give up, constantly believe in their abilities and do not adopt the negative stereotypes that exist about Black women in the profession.

"Remember you are every bit as competent if not more than everyone in that room," she said.

Nutritionists Stress Importance Of Breakfast For Endurance, Better Attitude Toward Work

Three meals a day plays a significant role in supplying the daily recommended levels of essential nutrients, but nutritionists often say breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

Studies have shown that eating breakfast is associated with improved strength and endurance in the late morning, along with a better attitude toward school or work.

Breakfast helps to replenish blood glucose levels, which is important since the brain itself has no reserves of glucose, its main energy source, and constantly must be replenished.

Despite these facts, many people, adults and children routinely skip breakfast, offering such excuses as not enough time, on a diet or not being hungry.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Human Nutrition Information Service offers quick tips to help avoid being a breakfast skipper that include: building a breakfast around foods that are ready to eat or take little preparation time; choosing foods that you can take with you if you feel there's no time to eat; drinking juice if you don't feel hungry and remembering that it's not healthy to skip breakfast even if you are on a diet.

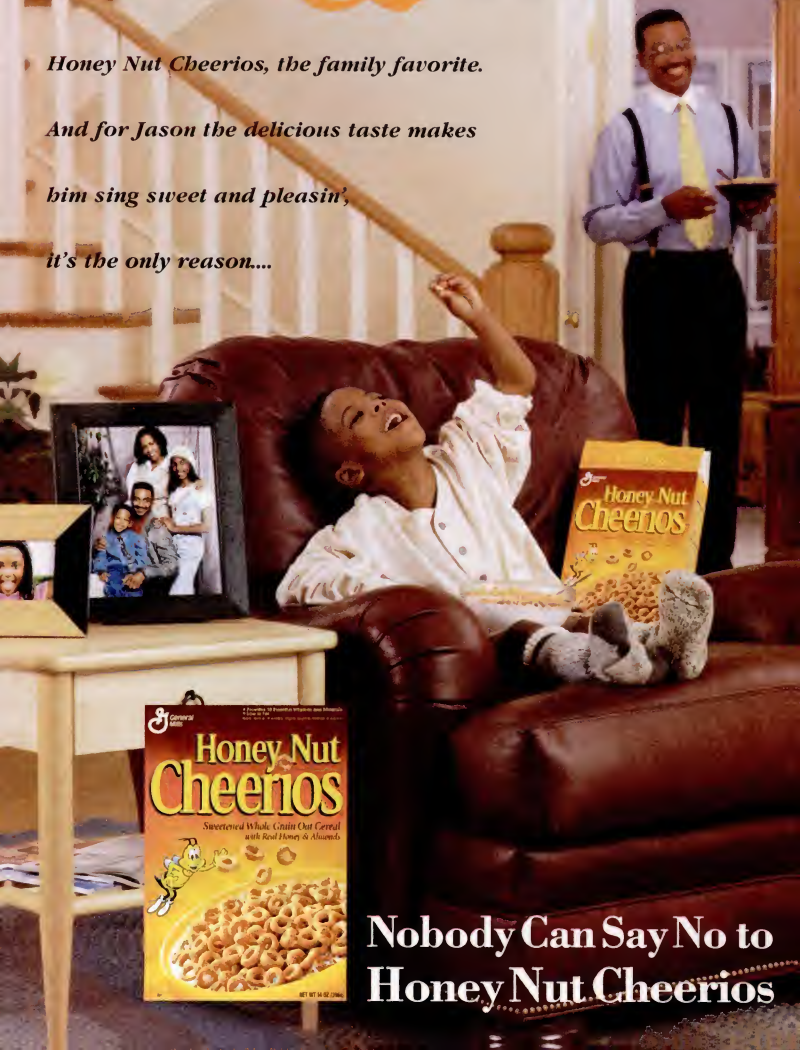
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Loraine Green, Former AKA Sorority National President, Dies At 106



Loraine Green

Loraine Green, a longtime community volunteer and former national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. (AKA), recently died in her Chicago home. She was 106.

Mrs. Green, who served as the sorority's national president from 1919 to 1921, remained an active member of the sorority throughout her life.

In 1958, she became the first

Black woman to serve on the Chicago Board of Education. She voted against busing students between elementary schools to integrate schools. She said she felt that instead of busing Black students to other neighborhoods, schools in Black neighborhoods should be improved. She served on the board for 11 years.

Mrs. Green served on many other boards, including the Chicago Urban League, Chicago Recreation Commission, Advisory Board of Illinois Hospitals and Advisory Board of the Illinois Training School for Girls.

She was married to the late Wendell E. Green, the first Black circuit court judge in Cook County. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Barbara Jordan Wills Her Estate To Sisters, Friend And Mother



Barbara Jordan

The late former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, who died last month of pneumonia, left her estate to family members, her friend Nancy Earl, and her archives at Texas Southern University, JET has learned after examining her last will and testament.

The will, signed on August 16, 1990, did not give any monetary value to her estate. Ms. Jordan did, however, in a personal note to her family say, "because a will is a technically written legal instrument

which governs the disposition of property and which becomes a part of the public records, I do not include in this instrument personal messages of affection which I believe are best given by other means."

Ms. Jordan, the daughter of a Baptist preacher, became the first Black woman from a Southern state to serve in the U.S. Congress since Reconstruction in 1972. She died at the Austin Diagnostic Medical Center in Austin, TX.

In her will, Ms. Jordan left her sister Bennie Creswell, "any automobile and any clothing I own at my death."

To the Barbara Jordan Archives at Texas Southern University, where she graduated magna cum laude, she left "any public papers or artifacts I have produced during my pro-

Continued on page 64

This Week In Black History

February 5, 1933 —



◀ **J. Herman Banning**, first Black aviator to be licensed by the U.S. Department of Commerce, died on this day in an airplane crash (he was not the pilot) in San Diego, CA. On September 19, 1932, Banning and his mechanic, Thomas Allen, became the first Blacks to fly across the United States. This pioneering journey from Los Angeles to New York took 22 hours over a 20-day period. The flight was completed October 9, 1932. They had only \$25 to finance the journey, but many people contributed funds to help, including supporters of Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency.

February 10, 1780 —

Blacks protested against taxation without representation. Seven Blacks in Dartmouth, MA, including Paul Cuffe and his brother John, protested in a petition to the Revolutionary legislature of their state against the fact that they were subjected to taxation without the right to vote. In 1783, by court decision, Blacks subjected to taxation were declared to be entitled to vote.

February 11, 1990 —

▶ South Africa released **Nelson Mandela**, the leader of the African National Congress, from prison. Mandela had become one of the world's most famous political prisoners, spending more than 27 years in jail. In June 1990, he embarked on a triumphal 13-nation world tour. During August 6 and 7, 1990, ANC leaders and the government held talks denouncing the armed struggle and the government suspended its four-year-old state of emergency. Then, four years later, Nelson Mandela made history again by becoming the first Black president of South Africa. He won by an overwhelming victory during an historic multiracial election.



PEOPLE



Peter Hayden, president and founder of Turning Point, Inc., a social services agency in Minneapolis, was elected chair of the National Black Alcohol and Addic-

tion Council in Washington, D.C.



Joyce London Alexander, recently was sworn in as chief United States magistrate judge for the District of Massachusetts. She is the first Black female

chief judge in the state and the first Black chief U.S. magistrate judge in the nation.



Thelma E. M. White, a senior at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL, recently was named homecoming queen there. She is the university's first

Black to be crowned homecoming queen.



Dr. Mary T. Maynard, associate superintendent for school administration of the DeKalb County (GA) School System, recently was named the system's deputy super-

intendent for administration and finance. She is the first woman and the first Black to hold this position.

Fred Johnson, a police officer for Pike County in McComb, MS, recently became a sheriff in Pike County. He is the first Black to hold this position.

Stacy Robinson, a former NFL player, has been named to the new position of director of player development for the National Football League Players Association in Washington, D.C. Robinson was a second round draft pick of the New York Giants in 1986.

Sha'Ron James, a senior at Florida A & M University, has been appointed the student member of the Florida Board of Regents in Tallahassee, FL.

Dr. Virginia Brown Calvin, superintendent of the South Bend Community School Corporation in Indiana, is the first Black female to be named Indiana's Superintendent of the Year. She is the first Black and first female superintendent in the history of the district.

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▲ **MCDONALD'S SUPPORT:** Famed singer Lou Rawls, host of "The Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon, which raises funds for The College Fund/UNCF, thanks McDonald's owner-operator Beatrice Patrick (Los Angeles, CA) and McDonald's Communications Director Frank Gihan for another year of McDonald's support. The Ronald McDonald House Charities, its local chapters and franchises have donated \$2 million to The College Fund/UNCF. Half of the donation will award two year scholarships to 10 UNCF students through the Ronald McDonald House Charities/UNCF Health and Medical Scholars Program. Over the past 20 years, the McDonald's system has raised more than \$9.5 million for The College Fund/UNCF.

Colin Powell, Dennis Hightower Named To Howard University Board Of Trustees

Former Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Ret. Gen. Colin Powell recently was named to the Howard University Board of Trustees.



Colin Powell



Dennis Hightower

said, "I am honored to have been invited to serve on the Howard University Board of Trustees. I look forward to working with President Pat Swygert as he builds upon Howard's great legacy

In a prepared statement, Powell

builds upon Howard's great legacy

among historically Black colleges and universities, as well as its legacy as one of the leading universities in the nation."

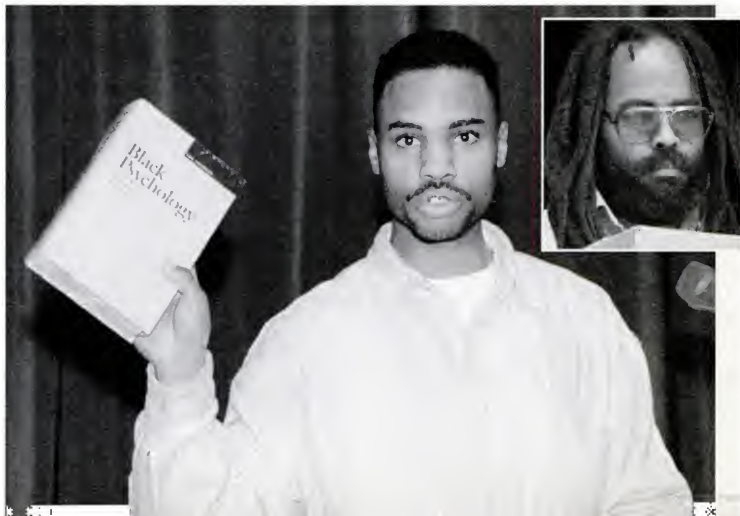
Also named to the board of trustees was Howard alumnus Dennis F. Hightower, who is president of Walt Disney Television & Telecommunications.

Hightower, a 1962 graduate of Howard, recently was honored by the university as the keynote speaker at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the School of Business. In 1986, he received Howard University's Distinguished

Postgraduate Achievement Award for Business.

"Howard University is greatly honored and pleased to have these two outstanding Americans join its board of trustees and assist in the work of pursuing its unique and very special mission," said university President Swygert. "With these renowned leaders joining our already distinguished board, Howard University reaffirms its traditional position and role as a premiere institution of higher learning in this country."

▼ **ABU-JAMAL EARNS DEGREE:** Jamal Mumia Abu-Jamal presents a book from his father, journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal (inset), who is on death row in a Pennsylvania prison for the murder of a police officer, to the library of Goddard College in Plainfield, VT, after accepting his father's bachelor of arts degree at the college. The 41-year-old journalist was awarded a degree in psychology. He attended the college between 1978 and 1980. Last year he reapplied and was accepted into the off-campus program where he did all of his course work through the mail. "This day has truly been long in coming, several decades long, in fact. That it is here borders on the miraculous," said Mumia Abu-Jamal in a prepared statement that was read by his son.



White Couple Charged With Attacking 9-Year-Old Black Boy In South Carolina



▲ *The grandparents of a 9-year-old Black boy who said a White couple attacked, beat and nearly strangled him stand outside of the boy's house in New Zion, SC. A small field separates the boy's house and the couple's home, where the boy was playing.*

A White couple in New Zion, SC, has been charged for allegedly punching, kicking, and tying a 9-year-old Black boy to a tree and nearly strangling him.

Benjamin Mims, 62, and his 43-year-old wife, Betty, were arrested on state charges of second-degree lynching, or mob violence. They spent one night in jail and were released after posting \$5,000 each for bail.

Reports say the boy was playing with the couple's 9-year-old son and their 13-year-old niece at their house. A field separates the Mimses' home from the boy's home.

According to the sheriff's report, Mrs. Mims got angry with the boy and pushed him out of the house. In the yard, the children pushed the boy into Mims' truck and then told Mims that the boy was stealing from the truck.

The boy said that Mims came outside, shook a crowbar at him and said, "This is what I do to a nigger if he tries to steal something from my truck."

The family then took the boy into the woods behind their home and tied him to a tree, according to the police report. Mims fired a shotgun



▲ A White couple allegedly tied a 9-year-old Black boy to a tree and attacked him at their New Zion, SC, home shown here. The boy had been playing with the couple's son and niece.

blast past the boy's head and his son fired a second shot. Mims hit the boy on the foot with a crowbar and his son and niece punched him in his chest and abdomen.

Mrs. Mims then held a belt around the boy's neck until he passed out, the boy told police. When he was freed, the family told him not to tell anyone what happened or his family would be killed and his house burned, the sheriff's department said.

Emergency room doctors said the boy's injuries were consistent with his account. He had bruises, swelling and scratches.

Mrs. Mims denied that the assault took place, Sheriff Hoyt Collins said. The couple had agreed to take a

lie detector test but later refused without explanation. The couple's lawyer said, "You're going to find out that all this ink you're writing...is nothing near what actually happened."

Collins said police do not know what might have angered Mrs. Mims or why the children would have wanted to abuse the boy. Collins also said he does not think the alleged incident was a hate crime. However, the FBI is looking into the possibility of a federal civil rights violation.

If convicted, the Mimses could face up to 20 years in prison. Prosecutors have not decided whether to bring charges against the kids.

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MICHIGAN

STEKETEE'S

Grand Rapids;
Kalamazoo; Muskegon

MISSISSIPPI

LAMPTON'S

Columbia

Feb. 18 – Mar. 2

LOUISIANA

DILLARD'S

Baton Rouge; Gretna;
Hammond; Houma;
Kenner; Lafayette;
Marrero; Metairie;
New Orleans; Slidell

McRAE'S

Monroe

MASSACHUSETTS

JORDAN MARSH

Boston; Brockton;
Sommerville

MISSISSIPPI

DILLARD'S

Hattiesburg; Jackson;
Ridgeland
RUTH'S, INC.
Columbus

NEW JERSEY

STERN'S

Jersey City; Ocean;
Paramus; South Plainfield;
Wayne; West Orange;
Woodbridge

NEW YORK

STERN'S

Douglaston; Elmhurst;
Flushing; Garden City;
Massapequa; Nanuet;
New York; Valley Stream;
White Plains; Yonkers



SOCIETY WORLD



▲ **Down The Aisle:** Two hearts beat as one when Mr. and Mrs. Charles Drayton Wilson walked down the aisle at Hoosier Memorial United Methodist Church in Atlanta, GA. The lovely bride, the former Nina Suzette Wolfe, is a graduate of Triton College in River Grove, IL. She works as a director of Maranatha Preparatory Academy. The handsome groom, a graduate of Clark Atlanta University, is a commercial artist.

▲ **The Sweetest Day:** Mr. and Mrs. Michael K. Thompson recently wed at the Holiday Inn, City Line in Philadelphia, PA. The bride, a graduate of Temple University, is an office manager for BNP Cooper Neff, Inc. The groom, a graduate of Drexel University in Philadelphia, is a marketing representative with Independence Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The loving twosome honeymooned in Negril, Jamaica.

► **African-Caribbean Love:** Jerome Ashley Wellington Yeates and his bride, the former Rosalind Ann Cummings, recently wed during an African-Caribbean ceremony at the South Side Community Art Center in Chicago, IL. The bride, a graduate of Illinois State University and Roosevelt University, is a freelance writer. The groom, a graduate of DeVry Institute, is an engineer at O/E Chicago, Inc. The couple honeymooned in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.





▲ **Lovers For Life:** Eric Leon Watson and his lovely bride, the former Patricia Denise Johnson, recently pledged their eternal love by getting married at Sandals Resort in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The beautiful bride, a graduate of Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, is an information coordinator for the Coca-Cola Co. The handsome groom, a graduate of the University of Kansas, is a marketing manager for InterServ.



▲ **Fantastic Fifty:** John and Lydia Allen celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss. Family and friends joined in the joyous celebration with the happy couple at the Salaam Restaurant in Chicago, IL. The groom is a retired painter and the bride is a retired social worker. They received numerous warm wishes and congratulatory letters including acknowledgments from President and Mrs. Bill Clinton and Governor Jim Edgar of Illinois.



▲ **All I Want Is Forever:** Frederick Keith Taylor and his bride, Dorothy Jean Daniels, wed at the Hyatt Regency in La Jolla, CA. The bride, a graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law, is a criminal defense attorney with the San Diego County Public Defender's Office. The groom, a graduate of Golden Gate University School of Law, is a bankruptcy attorney with the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

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Spring '96 Itinerary (Partial Listing)

Orlando, FL	Sat., 2/3
Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre	8 pm
Tampa, FL	Sun., 2/4
Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center	
Playhouse Theater	5 pm
St. Petersburg, FL	Mon., 2/5
Mahafey Theater Bayfront Center	8 pm
Melbourne, FL	Wed., 2/7
Brevard Community College	8 pm
Savannah, GA	Fri., 2/9
Savannah Civic Center	8 pm
Columbia, SC	Sat., 2/10
Township Auditorium	8 pm
Charleston, SC	Sun., 2/11
Gaillard Municipal Auditorium	7 pm
Wilmington, NC	Tues., 2/13
Kenan Auditorium	8 pm
Fayetteville, NC	Wed., 2/14
Reeves Auditorium/Methodist College	8 pm
Bennettsville, SC	Thurs., 2/15
Bennettsville Middle School	8 pm
Aiken, SC	Fri., 2/16
Etherredge Center/USCA	8 pm
Macon, GA	Sat., 2/17
City Auditorium	8 pm
Atlanta, GA	Sun., 2/18
Atlanta Civic Center	6 pm

Fiancée Of Maine Sen. Cohen Is Janet Langhart, TV Anchor, Ex-Model

When he scheduled a news conference in Augusta, Maine, colorful Sen. William Cohen drew a capacity crowd of reporters eager to learn whether he intended to seek re-election for a fourth term in Washington.

With "fiancée" Janet Langhart at his side, the GOP senator, who is considered "a maverick" in the conservative-controlled Congress, announced that he would not seek re-election. He claimed that he wanted to explore "unspecified new challenges" involving international trade.

He said that the budget stalemate on Capitol Hill helped him make up his mind, becoming the 13th senator to reject another campaign, an all-time high.

With his plans in politics spelled out, reporters then were interested if the 55-year-old bachelor was as definite about future wedding plans for the lovely Black anchorwoman and former model Janet Langhart.

The two have been friends for more than a year and are regularly seen together at Hill functions. She owns a condo near Capitol Hill.

The senator's press aide had no comment on the description of



▲ Sen. William Cohen (R-Maine), joined by his "fiancée" TV personality Janet Langhart, answers questions during a news conference where he announced he will not seek re-election at the end of his current term, which ends in January 1997.

"fiancée" given Ms. Langhart, a native of Indianapolis, IN, in news reports.

Currently she is employed by Black Entertainment Television (BET) and is a co-anchor with Julian Bond on his weekly TV news show.

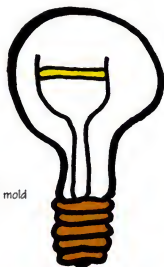
Every time you use these things...



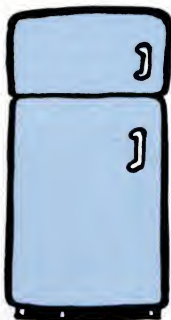
Mailbox - Philip B. Downing
His design incorporated the hinged door opening that is a common feature on U.S. mailboxes.
Patent #462,093 - October 27, 1891.



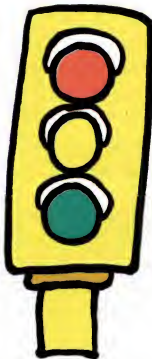
Golf Tee - George F. Grant - Prior to Grant's invention of the golf tee, golfers used their hands to mold a hitting surface from dirt or sand.
Patent #638,920 - December 12, 1899.



Electric Lamp with carbon filament
Lewis Latimer - He developed key innovations in the electric lamp design resulting in improved durability. These improvements increased effectiveness and lowered cost.
Patent #247,097 - September 13, 1881.



Refrigerator - John Stanard - He patented an improved refrigerator design with a water cooler and faucet for the dispensing of cold water.
Patent #455,891 - July 14, 1891.



Traffic Light - Garrett A. Morgan - His invention of the three-way automatic traffic signal helped make the roads safer for all of us.
Patent #1,475,024 - November 20, 1923.



Fountain Pen - W. B. Purvis - He designed a simple, durable and inexpensive fountain pen which was ideally suited for general use.
Patent #419,065 - January 7, 1890.

... you're celebrating Black History.

McDonald's® salutes these African American innovators and joins in the celebration of Black History throughout the year.



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◀ **SPECIAL VISIT:** First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton greets Christopher Benton, 5, who is featured on the calendar she received during her visit to the La Rabida Children's Hospital and Research Center in Chicago. Benton suffers from juvenile diabetes and was brought to the hospital in 1995. Mrs. Clinton was in Chicago to promote her book, *It Takes A Village and Other Lessons Children Teach Us*.

▲ **VOWS OF COMMITMENT:** Outgoing Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide kisses his new wife, Mildred Trouillot, during their recent nuptials at Aristide's home outside of Port-au-Prince. Aristide met his bride, who is a New York-born Haitian lawyer and his legal adviser, in the United States during his exile from Haiti. At the wedding the couple reaffirmed their commitment to lobby for Haiti's poor.





Janet Jackson Renews Contract With Virgin Records For Blockbuster Deal

Superstar Janet Jackson has inked a blockbuster agreement with Virgin Records for a reported \$80 million.

The recording contract with Virgin Records renews and expands a partnership which has already yielded spectacular results.

According to news reports, Jackson's new deal covers four albums of new material plus a greatest hits compilation, which becomes her property seven years after the contract ends. She will be paid a \$35 million advance upon signing and is guaranteed an estimated \$5 million advance per album plus a 24 percent royalty on the retail price of each record sold, reports said.

◀ Janet Jackson has agreed to a new recording contract with Virgin Records reportedly worth \$80 million.

The Grammy Award-winning entertainer said she is pleased with the partnership.

"I am excited to be re-signing with Virgin, particularly in light of the success we have had working together on my album, *janet.*," she said. "Working with individuals who support an artist's need to express a vision and who are willing to maintain the integrity of that vision during the many phases in an album's life is extremely important to me. Virgin has supported me in this way. I look forward to continuing my relationship with the talented team of professionals that makes up the Virgin family."

The album, *janet.*, has enjoyed enormous global sales and spawned a slew of hit singles and videos, including the debut single *That's The Way Love Goes*, which spent eight weeks at #1 on the Billboard pop chart on its way to platinum certification. The hit *You Want This* was a top 10 record smash and was Janet's fifteenth single to reach gold, setting a new record for most gold singles by a female artist.

In addition, the album has garnered a variety of awards and kudos.

Regarding the new pact, Virgin Music Group Worldwide Chairman/CEO Den Berry said: "Janet is the very embodiment of a global superstar. Her artistic brilliance and personal appeal transcend geographic, cultural and generational boundaries."

Study: Blacks Are Rarely Guests On Late-Night Television Shows



▲ World acclaimed musician-composer Quincy Jones reportedly has difficulty getting bookings on late-night TV. Study reveals a select, "safe" group, which includes Wesley Snipes, Halle Berry and Denzel Washington, appears on nighttime shows.

Blacks watch twice as much late-night television as Whites, but late-night television shows rarely have Black guests.

A three-month Newsweek survey revealed that only about 50 of almost 600 guests on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno and "Late Show with David Letterman" were Black, and less than half of those were musical guests.

Even 26-time, Grammy Award-winning musical genius Quincy Jones has had a hard time getting a booking on late-night television.

"We were given all kind of bull—reasons why he couldn't get on," a Jones aide said. "The fact that Quincy couldn't lets you know that any Black artist with less clout really catches hell."

Aides at both shows told Newsweek that racial bias has nothing to do with decisions they make about guests.

"The acts we book are based on a variety of things," said "Letterman" music booker Shelia Rogers. "Country gets us big ratings and good response. Groups like Boyz II Men do too, but there are other things to consider."

A former "Letterman" booker gave another reason for Black artists rarely appearing on the show: "Dave really doesn't like rap or R&B, so it doesn't get on a lot."

Gwen Priestly, former VP of publicity for Motown Records, said Boyz II Men, whose debut album sold more than 8 million copies, were told their second album would have to sell in the millions before they could get on "Letterman".

Leno likes country, said Gary Considine, VP for creative affairs at NBC. "Rap acts don't do well for us, so we don't book them that much. We have a certain audience that likes a certain thing and that's who we

cater to."

The few Black guests that do appear on late-night television usually are limited to well-known, "safe" Black stars such as Wesley Snipes, Halle Berry and Denzel Washington.

To bring some racial balance to late-night television several Blacks are lobbying for their own nighttime shows, including MTV's Bill Bellamy, to fill the void left by the "Arsenio Hall Show".

CBS Exec In Midst Of Racial Controversy

A top CBS executive is feeling the heat for allegedly remarking that Blacks can be depended on to watch late-night television because they don't have jobs to go to in the morning.

John Pike, head of the network's late-night programming, also allegedly said that comedy sketches appeal to Blacks because they can't follow complicated dramas.

The racially biased comments, which appeared in a recent article in *Details* magazine, were allegedly made by Pike during the executive's first meeting with the staff for the comedy show "The State".

Details—while not quoting Pike directly—reported that, according to people at the meeting, Pike questioned why no Black faces were present, considering Black faces would attract a Black audience.

According to the *Details* article: "Pike then flatly explains that research shows there are three reasons why African-Americans are an important part of the late-night demographic. First, they have no place to go in the morning—no jobs—so they can stay up as late as they like; second, they can't follow hour-long drama

shows—no attention span—so sketches are perfect for them; third, network TV is free."

In the trade paper *Variety*, Pike said he remembered advising the staff to appeal to minorities but denied making the racist remarks attributed to him in the *Details* article.

"It's a totally unfair characterization," Pike said in *Variety*. "There are times that executives deal with producers, and things may be said that can be taken out of context and can seem damning. But this was taken out of context by a reporter who was not even in the room."

CBS Entertainment President Leslie Moonves said in a press statement the network will be looking into the allegations, which he called "reprehensible."

"The allegations contained in this story are very serious and CBS intends to conduct a prompt and careful review of this matter," said Moonves. He added that "CBS finds these alleged statements to be reprehensible and hopes the allegations are not true. If they do prove to be true, the company will take appropriate action."



▲ O.J. Simpson is interviewed by Black Entertainment Television's Ed Gordon in Los Angeles.

Simpson Criticizes Media, Pleads With Detractors To 'Leave Me Alone' In BET Interview

In his first television interview since being released from jail, O.J. Simpson lashed out at the media, blaming them for lingering misconceptions about him. And he once again proclaimed that he did not kill his ex-wife Nicole and her friend Ron Goldman.

In an exclusive interview on Black Entertainment Television (BET), Simpson told host Ed Gordon at a studio in Los Angeles: "I did not commit those murders. I couldn't kill anyone and I don't know of anyone that was involved."

Simpson told Gordon that he doesn't believe the polls that have consistently shown that most of Whites in America still believe he's guilty. "I don't believe the polls, for one, judging by the people I've been exposed to, both Black and White Ameri-

cans...with White Americans, everywhere I've gone I've been welcomed and treated with respect. White women from Georgia, Iowa and South Africa tell me to go on, get your kids, keep your head high."

The biggest villain in his continuing ordeal, he said, is the media. He said that when he goes out with friends, he's followed by cameras and photographers; people stand on their cars to get shots of him and family members at home. He also said the media has continued to report one erroneous rumor after another. The media images some Americans saw of the trial when they came home from work was not always what actually went on, he said.

As an example of media distortion, he pointed out that on the day he was freed from jail most people

waved or gave him the thumbs up sign, but some in the media only showed a few signs that read: "The Butcher of Brentwood" and "Guilty."

The most moving point of the hour-long interview was at the end when Simpson's voice began to choke as he asked people to allow him a chance to earn a living and leave him alone. "If you don't like me, leave me alone. I'm not bothering you. Let me raise my family and give me the opportunity to earn a living to support my family and friends as best I can."

Simpson was referring to those individuals who have blocked access to his 800 number to order his \$29.95 video that reportedly tells his side of the story. Some radio stations and citizens' groups have urged people to flood the line to make sure that those who want Simpson's video will have trouble getting through.

He also pointed out that most commercial television stations will not even allow him to buy airtime to advertise the 800 phone number to order the video. He said the stations have given out phone numbers where money could be sent to help the families of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson fight him in civil court.

Gordon asked Simpson about the perception that the former football legend prefers White women to Black women. "I'm Black, I was raised Black. My mother taught me that it's your character that counts and don't let anybody judge you or limit you by saying you're Black." He went on to say: "I met Nicole Brown. I liked

Nicole Brown. It was immaterial to me that she was White. I was in love and am in love today with Marguerite Thomas (his first wife). We spoke two days ago. We spent Christmas together. I didn't look at her color when I met her. This was a woman I was in love with. Nicole was a woman I was in love with. Paula Barbieri (who recently broke up with him) is a woman I have a lot of feelings for."

He pointed out that he gives money to Black charitable organizations, provides scholarships for needy Black students through the LINKS (a Black female charitable organization). He said he also has bought uniforms and equipment for needy kids in his old San Francisco neighborhood, but added that he never felt the urge to publicize the good things he's done.

While praising Lou and Juditha Brown as being good grandparents, Simpson had harsh words for the siblings of his late wife. "The rest of the family, I think what they've done and what I know for a fact they've done has been very self-serving. I don't think they've been true to the memory of Nicole, who she was. I know of some pictures that were sold to the rags, unflattering pictures, by one of the sisters."

Simpson did criticize the Goldmans and Browns for not pushing the L.A. District Attorney's office as well as the LAPD to keep the case open and at least allow for the possibility that someone else killed the two and is still out there. Because all of his attempts to raise money have

been protested, he said he is only able to have three people working on finding the killer.

When asked about the negative impression he created by playing golf (Simpson said he only played twice) instead of openly grieving, he said: "I'll grieve for the rest of my life. I sat and was sorrowful for 400 something days in virtual isolation. I didn't talk to another prisoner. They had me in a room by myself. They wouldn't let me speak to another prisoner. When I walked down the hall, they made all the other prisoners turn their backs. I mourn and will mourn for the rest of my life. I should have the right to play golf. I am just as innocent as Denise Brown who's having love affairs."

Regarding his young children, Sydney, 9, and Justin, 6, Simpson said he expects that he may have to fight the Browns in court for custody.

The primary reason he has decided to market the \$29.95 video, he said, was because he still has to send a check to the Browns for the welfare of his two younger children. Simpson no longer is employed by NBC-TV or Hertz. Also some of his neighbors in the exclusive Brentwood section of L.A. have openly said they want him to move as well as some of the residents of his elegant condo in New York City. He said he knows he won't be a well-paid spokesman for products anymore.

He did acknowledge that race is a factor in that had the victims been his Black ex-wife and a Black male companion, he's certain there wouldn't have been as much made of the case.

Ultimately, Simpson said he fully expects his life to return to some semblance of normalcy. Time, he said, heals wounds.

Bonnie Pointer Wants Battery Charges Dropped Against Husband

Singer Bonnie Pointer, formerly of the pop vocal group the Pointer Sisters, doesn't want to press battery charges against her husband, Jeffrey Bownes.

The former member of the Pointer Sisters said she wants the matter dropped so she and her husband can resume work on a new album.


Bownes was arrested for investi-



Bonnie Pointer

gation of battery after allegedly hitting his wife and her sister, June Pointer, during a holiday party at June's Hollywood Hills home in California (JET, Jan. 15). June was hit, and suffered a broken nose, when she came to help her sister, said prosecutors.

If convicted, Bownes could face up to two years in jail.

A black and white photograph showing President Bill Clinton in a dark suit and tie, looking down at a casket. A woman in a police uniform stands behind him. The casket is draped with an American flag, and a woman is visible inside it.

the week's best photos

Wilfredo Lee

■ **PRESIDENT PAYS LAST RESPECTS:** President Bill Clinton stands at the coffin bearing former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan during a funeral service for the late pioneering politician at the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Houston, TX. Jordan, 59, who died of pneumonia caused by complications from leukemia, was eulogized by the President as a person “who stirred our national conscience.”

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beauty of the week

A full-page photograph of Stephanie Barrack. She is a woman with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing a white, textured, one-piece swimsuit with a halter-style top. Her right hand is on her hip, and her left arm is raised, with her hand behind her head. She is standing in front of a dark, vertical wooden post. The background is dark and out of focus, with some green foliage visible on the right side.

**STEPHANIE
BARRACK**
is from Los
Angeles. She
enjoys writing
poetry and short
stories.

LaMonte McLemore



Bill Jones

■ **SPECIAL SALUTE TO COLE:** The late legendary singer Nat King Cole recently was honored with a special award and salute at the Fourth Annual Trumpet Awards held at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta. Maria Cole (c), the singer's widow, accepted the award and was congratulated by Nat's brother, singer Freddy Cole, and songstress Nancy Wilson.



■ **GRAND PRIDE:** Country music superstar Charley Pride, the first Black to be inducted into the Grand Ole Opry, attends the Fourth Annual Trumpet Awards with his wife, Rozene, at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta. Pride was honored at the event for his many accomplishments in the field.

Tampa Bay Names Dungy Head Coach; Becomes 4th Black Top Coach In NFL



▲ Tony Dungy, 40, tries on a Tampa Bay Buccaneers hat after being named the team's new head coach.

After building a strong defensive reputation with the Minnesota Vikings, Tony Dungy recently became the

Tampa Bay Buccaneers' new head coach.

Dungy, 40, was the defensive coordinator for the Vikings under Dennis Green. He becomes only the fourth Black head coach of the modern NFL era. Dungy follows Green, Art Shell—formerly of the Los Angeles Raiders—and coach of the year Ray Rhodes of the Philadelphia Eagles.

"This was kind of a refreshing thing with the way it all transpired. I certainly didn't know anyone in Tampa before it all started," Dungy told reporters in a conference call.

"It's an example of how the system should work. People here have confidence in me for whatever reason," he added.

Dungy interviewed for the Jacksonville Jaguars job two years ago and the Eagles job last year.

At the age of 28, Dungy became the youngest defensive coordinator with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1984. He also coached with the Kansas City Chiefs.

Cardinals Trade Bernard Gilkey To New York Mets

The St. Louis Cardinals recently traded outfielder Bernard Gilkey to the New York Mets for three minor league players.

Gilkey, who batted a respectable .298 last season with St. Louis, became expend-



Bernard Gilkey

able after the Cardinals added free-agent Ron Gant to their squad.

Gilkey, 29, was dealt to the Mets for minor-league pitchers Eric Ludwick and Erik Hiljus and outfielder Yudith Ozorio.

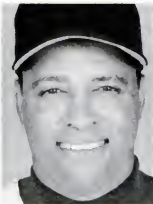


▲ **VALUABLE VAUGHN:** Boston Red Sox's First Baseman Mo Vaughn (r) chats with Rachel Robinson, widow of Black baseball pioneer Jackie Robinson, at the New York Chapter of the Baseball Writers of America Annual Awards Dinner in New York. Vaughn received the Most Valuable Player award from the group.

White Sox Acquire Danny Tartabull From Oakland For Two Minor Leaguers

The Chicago White Sox recently acquired star outfielder Danny Tartabull from the Oakland A's for two minor league players, pitcher Andrew Lorraine and outfielder Charles Poe.

Tartabull, 33, was a premiere slugger for the New York Yankees with 31 home runs and 102 RBIs in 1993. But injuries over the last two years have kept him from producing.



Danny Tartabull

Last season while playing with the Yankees and A's, his last team, Tartabull appeared in 83 games. He had only 8 homers and 35 RBIs due to a rib cage injury.

"It's fine now," Tartabull said about the injury.

Tartabull is in the final year of a five-year, \$25 million deal he signed with the Yankees in 1991. The A's will reportedly pay a "substantial amount" of that deal.

Ninth-Grade Teacher Of Redskins' Mitchell Lauded As NFL Teacher Of The Year

Washington Redskins running back Brian Mitchell has so much respect for his ninth-grade English teacher Carolyn Brown that he recommended her to the NFL as an outstanding teacher.



Brian Mitchell



Carolyn Brown

"She taught me to be confident and believe in myself. Without her I probably wouldn't be where I am today."

An educator for 30 years, Brown will receive a \$5,000 grant from the NFL and Plaquemine High will be given a \$10,000 scholarship.

The results of Mitchell's efforts landed Mrs. Brown, who teaches French and English at Plaquemine (LA) High School, honored as teacher of the year for 1995, the NFL recently announced.

"I was so excited that I'm still out of breath. That was such an honor," Brown told JET in a telephone interview.

"Ms. Brown was a great inspiration to me and was much more than just my ninth-grade English teacher," Mitchell said in the USA Today.

Mrs. Brown also was slated to be honored at the Pro Bowl in Hawaii on Feb. 4, where Mitchell reportedly will make his first Pro Bowl appearance of his six-year football career.

▼ **HILL HEADS FOR TEXAS:** Pitcher Ken Hill jokes with his son, Ken Hill, Jr., during a visit to the Texas Rangers locker room in Arlington. Hill recently signed with the Rangers after a standout season with the Montreal Expos.



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▲ **EPIC TENNIS MATCH:** U.S. tennis star Chanda Rubin, 19, shakes hands with Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario after their quarter final match at the Australian Open in Melbourne. Rubin battled Vicario for an epic 3 hours, 33 minutes, playing a grueling 2 hours, 22 minutes in the final set to score a 6-4, 2-6, 16-14 upset victory. However, in the semifinals, Rubin, who was No. 13 seed, lost to top seed Monica Seles 7-6, 1-6, 5-7.

NBA Union Reps Vote To Fire Executive Director Simon Gourdine

NBA Union player representatives voted 16-0 during a conference call to fire executive director Simon Gourdine.

At JET press time Gourdine, who replaced Charles Grantham last April, had not been officially notified of his firing, but he and the union were negotiating a settlement on the two-year, \$1.2 million contract he received in January.

"I think it was time for a change,"



Simon Gourdine

Minnesota player representative Doug West told the USA Today. "I don't think Simon or the players association has been leveling with the players."

Several union members were skeptical of Gourdine from the beginning. A group, advised by several well-known agents, criticized him for his handling of negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement last summer and attempted to decertify the union.

Larry Brown's Two Interceptions Key To Cowboys' Fifth Super Bowl Win

Dallas Cowboys cornerback Larry Brown's two key interceptions helped the club called "America's Team" capture a 27-17 win over the Pittsburgh Steelers before 76,347 screaming fans at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, AZ.

Brown's drive-killing picks earned him MVP honors on the 30th anniversary of the most watched game in all of sports.

This was also the Cowboys' third Super Bowl win in the last four years, giving the franchise a record-tying fifth Super Bowl triumph.

"I'm happy that we won. It would have been a bitter feeling if we came this far and lost," said Brown, the game's first defensive MVP since the Chicago Bears' Richard Dent did it in Super Bowl XX.

Brown's season began tragically when his young son, who was born prematurely, died. "I did consider taking some time off. But the organization and the players rallied around me. They helped me through that time of my life. I have to give them a lot of credit. I don't think I could have done it without them," Brown said about his son's death.

Brown, a 26-year-old, five-year veteran out of Texas Christian, returned two interceptions for a Super



▲ Dallas Cowboys cornerback Larry Brown runs back one of his two interceptions during Super Bowl XXX.

Bowl record 77 yards and set the stage for two touchdowns.

Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith scored two touchdowns to give him 15 postseason career rushing touchdowns, just one shy of the record by Hall of Fame Steelers' rusher Franco Harris.

"This one is sweet. They all are. This one is for coach (Barry) Switzer, who took all that abuse," Smith said.

When asked if the Cowboys are the team of the '90s, Smith cracked,

► *Super Bowl MVP Larry Brown displays his MVP trophy during a news conference in Phoenix.*

"The '90's aren't over yet. We've still got a long way to go but I'm hoping that's the way it will be."

Defensive end Charles Haley, who battled back from a career-threatening back injury to play in the playoffs, won a record fifth Super Bowl in his career. Haley also recorded one sack in the game. He ties a Super Bowl record of 4½. MVP Brown credited his partner at cornerback Deion Sanders' blanket-like coverage for making it possible for him to step up and play big. But Sanders was talking big after the game.

"For me, it's unbelievable. I didn't even get to touch the (Vince Lombardi) trophy last year. I may sleep with it. I might even make love to it. I'm that kind of guy," Sanders said.

Sanders, who won in Super Bowl



XXIX with the San Francisco 49ers in 1995, came to Dallas for big bucks as a free-agent. But the irrepressible all-purpose player made super plays all season.

The big question is will the two-sport star play baseball this spring?

"I love the fans in Dallas and the baseball situation, but I'm happy with what I'm doing," Sanders said.

In perhaps the most entertaining Super Bowl in five years, the Steelers

▼ *Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith breaks through an opening during the first quarter of the game. Smith, who holds the record for regular season touchdowns (25), scored two rushing touchdowns in the game.*





▲ Cornerback Deion Sanders has a strong grip on the Super Bowl trophy after the game. It was his second title in as many years.

spotted the Cowboys a 10-0 lead after one quarter, but went into the locker room trailing 13-7 at halftime.

Steelers rusher Bam Morris gained 73 yards on 19 attempts—tops in the game—for one touchdown that he scored to close the lead to 20-17 in the fourth quarter.

But Brown's interception with 4:15 left in the game set up Smith's second touchdown. Smith finished with 49 yards on 18 carries.

"Okay, don't close the book, it's not the last chapter, we've still got chapters to write," said Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin.

Only time will tell...



Cowboys' Coach Switzer Reveals Family's Close Ties With Blacks In Autobiography

◀ Dallas Cowboys coach Barry Switzer holds the Vince Lombardi trophy at a news conference before the Cowboys beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 27-17 in Super Bowl XXX in Tempe, AZ.

When the Dallas Cowboys won Super Bowl XXX, football fans recalled coach Barry Switzer's family's close relationship with Blacks.

In his 1990 autobiography, *Bootlegger's Boy*, written with Bud Shrake, Switzer reveals his friendship with

Blacks as a child growing up in Crossett, AR. "Black kids were my best friends," Switzer writes in his book. He remembers, "In the fourth grade I used to pick cotton for a Black man and I'd go swim in the creek with the Black kids."

Coach Switzer, who grew up near a rural Black community of a dozen shanty houses, recently told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, "My entire life has been spent around Black people, and so has Doug's (Barry Switzer's son). My daddy, he was a bootlegger in Crossett, AR, and we lived out in the country with 12 Black shanties around our house. We didn't see a White face for miles."

Football fans and players note that Switzer's life experiences—some pleasant and some tragic—may have contributed to his sensitivity to Blacks and good rapport with his Black players. In *Bootlegger's Boy*, Switzer reveals that his father dated two Black women, one of whom shot him in a jealous rage.

Frank Switzer and his Black mistress died together in a car crash after she caught him with another Black woman. She shot him and then tried to rush him to the hospital. Coach Switzer writes in his book, "the car left the road, hit a power pole, and exploded into flames."

Cowboys star Emmitt Smith summed up Switzer's love and respect for Black talent when he exclaimed after winning the NFC championship game earlier this season, "Now, we're the

bootlegger's boys."

Known as "Mr. Frank," Switzer's father was a generous man who often paid the medical bills for Blacks and also would guarantee the bill when Blacks had a hard time getting admitted to a hospital. Unlike most Southern Whites in the '40s and '50s, Frank Switzer always socialized with Blacks. He loaned Blacks money and also paid to send some to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, a historically Black college.

Adding to the family's close relationship with Blacks is Coach Switzer's son, Doug, who is the only White scholarship player on the predominately all-Black University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff football team. "My kids never knew the difference between Blacks and White," Switzer told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Coach Switzer remembers an encounter he had with one of the young men his father sent to college.

"I was in the airport in Oklahoma City one day," he told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "And a Black gentleman walked up to me and said, 'I just want you to know that I was one of the people Mr. Frank put through college.'"

"Mr. Frank" sold whiskey around town and son Barry has always defended his liberal-minded, fun-loving father.

"Just because my dad's profession was bootleggin' doesn't mean he wasn't a good person," he told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Magic Johnson Returns To Los Angeles Lakers

After several days of media speculation, Earvin "Magic" Johnson officially announced he has come out of retirement to play basketball for the Los Angeles Lakers.

Johnson showed up at a recent Lakers practice and made the informal announcement of his return.

The 36-year-old, 6-foot-9, 255-pounder, reportedly will suit up as a power forward for the Lakers in his first game against the Golden State



▲ Johnson once again will wear No. 32. He retired Nov. 7, 1991, when he learned he was infected with the AIDS virus.

Warriors at the Great Western Forum in Inglewood, CA.

Johnson signed a contract for the remainder of the season for \$2.5 million, the maximum amount allowed to a new player under the new NBA collective bargaining agreement.

The Lakers announced that the five-time NBA champion will wear his old No. 32, which was retired in a ceremony on Feb. 16, 1992.

◀ Magic Johnson is stretched by trainer Gary Vitti during a recent workout with the Los Angeles Lakers at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.



Danny Glover, Wesley Snipes, Jasmine Guy Star In HBO-TV Short Stories **'America's Dream'**



Danny Glover, Wesley Snipes, and Jasmine Guy are among the stars featured in Home Box Office's (HBO) television short stories *America's Dream*, which premieres Feb. 17th.

America's Dream is a trilogy of 30-minute films that have the universal themes of Blacks fighting for dignity, self-respect, battling racism and, of course, having and working for dreams in the years before the Civil Rights Movement.

The first is *Long Black Song* starring Danny Glover and Tina Lifford. Glover plays hard-working farmer Silas, a man of quiet dignity who endures racism simply to make ends meet. On one occasion, he bucks the White businessman who buys his crops and decides to buy his wife

▲ Danny Glover, Tina Lifford and infant twin Lauren McIntosh star in the first short story, *Long Black Song*.

► Jasmine Guy and Wesley Snipes star in the short story by John Henrik Clarke, *The Boy Who Painted Christ Black*.



► *Vanessa Bell Calloway and Norman D. Golden II star in the second story, The Boy Who Painted Christ Black. She encourages the talented youngster to enter his painting in a contest.*



something really nice instead of a washboard, something the merchant said would be more practical.

While Silas is negotiating with the merchant, his wife Sarah is being tempted by goodies of a traveling White salesman (Tate Donovan). She also finds herself being drawn into the man's sexual web. Daniel Tucker Kamin also performed in the film which is based on a story by Richard Wright and is directed by Kevin Rodney Sullivan.

Glover said of Richard Wright: "I find that his writing, on the one hand, can be very dark. On the other hand, his writing allows us to go places which are often prohibited for

us to go. We live on the edge of this madness, this madness of survival. There's a very, very strong sense of survival here. Richard's writing comes to the basis of survival."

Sullivan is equally as complimentary about Wright and notes that it is sometimes difficult to make a movie as rich as a great writer's words. "Richard Wright is more brilliant than any of us ever could hope to be. The mind is much more powerful than a camera. If you read something, your mind can do a much better

job than I ever could. Most great books have movies that are sort of



◀ *Yolanda King, daughter of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., portrays the mother of Golden in the short story, The Boy Who Painted Christ Black.*



◀ Carl Lumbly and Lorraine Toussaint star in the third segment, *Reunion*, based on a short story by renowned poet Maya Angelou. Toussaint is *Philomena*, a talented pianist reunited with the White woman who racially tormented her as a child.

ented youngster. However, if he enters that picture which will be judged by Whites, he will definitely not get the job promotion. Vanessa Bell Calloway is the school teacher who urges him to do the right thing and enter the Christ painting. The White state school supervisor (Timothy Carhart) and Du Vul's wife emphatically encourage him to do what's best for him. The film also features Norman D. Golden II, Yolanda King and Rae'ven A'Lyia Kelly. Bill Duke directs the short film which is based on a short story written by John Henrik Clarke.

The third movie is *Reunion* and takes place in Chicago in 1958. Lorraine Toussaint plays *Philomena*, a

play imitations. In this case, we hoped to capture the essence of what he wanted to say."

The second film is *The Boy Who Painted Christ Black*. It takes place in Georgia in 1948. Wesley Snipes plays George Du Vul, an ambitious high school principal who's being groomed for a bigger state position. His wife, played by Jasmine Guy, is equally as ambitious.

Du Vul's dilemma is complicated when he is asked to select a painting entry into the state's pride contest. The most beautiful painting is of a Black Christ figure painted by a tal-

▶ Susanna Thompson stars in *Reunion* as Beth Ann, the snobbish daughter of a wealthy White family for whom *Philomena* and her parents once worked.



talented jazz pianist whose bitter childhood memories of racism are awakened by the surprise visit of Beth Ann (Susanna Thompson), the snobbish daughter of a wealthy White family for whom Philomena and her parents once worked.

Philomena is a talented pianist, but she is constantly mocked and humiliated by Beth Ann and her friends. She always dreamed of playing the piano, but wasn't allowed to. Philomena spends a lot of time dreaming of the day when she'll get years of

anger out of her system and get total revenge. Her chance comes when Beth Ann announces that she's about to marry a Black man. Carl Lumbly and Bennet Guillory also star in the movie. The movie, directed by Paris Barclay, is based on a story written by Maya Angelou.

All three movies are shot on location in Dallas and rural Texas. Musician Patrice Rushen, who conducted the Arsenio Hall band and sang the hit song *Forget Me Not* did the music for all three films.

CELEBRITIES

▼ **SEAGRAM'S ELECTRIFYING LADY:** Raquel Simone Graham (far, r) the new 1995 Seagram's Gin Electrifying Lady Woman of Distinction, receives the \$10,000 Grand Prize check during ceremonies at B. Smith's Restaurant & Rooftop Cafe in New York City. She is congratulated by (l-r) Clyde C. Allen, director, trade marketing, The House of Seagram; Barbara Smith, owner of B. Smith's Restaurant & Rooftop Cafe; and Mark S. Gothberg, marketing manager, National Brands, The House of Seagram. Ms. Graham, 27, of New York, is a graduate of Wesleyan University and was selected over three other semi-finalists in the sixth annual Seagram's Gin Electrifying Lady Women of Distinction Contest. Contestants for the Grand Prize were chosen from a promotional advertisement that appeared in the October 1995 issue of EBONY.





▲ *Brothers Shawn and Marlon Wayans wrote and star in comic spoof Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood.*

Wayans Brothers' Parody, 'Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood', Takes Humorous Look At Black Urban Movies

Shawn and Marlon Wayans say enough is enough. America doesn't need to see any more of the drive-by shootings and other negatives that make up the so-called "hood movie."

To slam home their feelings about the 'hood genre, the brothers wrote and star in a version of their own 'hood movie, *Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood*, a comic spoof that pokes fun at all the coming-of-age-in-the-'hood movies made in the past five years.

The youngest of 10 Wayans siblings, five of whom starred in the comedy sensation "In Living Color", Shawn and Marlon said they developed the movie idea after sitting down and watching, one after another, all of the 'hood films, that in-

clude *Menace To Society*, *Poetic Justice* and *Juice*.

"We started seeing the similarities in these films, the clichés in the themes and their sometime comic nature even if not intentional...people like to laugh, and whenever a genre, like 'hood movies, plays itself out, that's when it's time for a parody," Shawn says.

Make no mistake, if the comic nature in the original films is unintentional, Marlon and Shawn's is not. It comes in the tradition of big brother Keenen Ivory Wayans' hit parody *I'm Gonna Get U Sucka*, which pokes fun at the Blaxploitation films of the 1970s.

In *Don't Be A Menace...* Shawn stars as Ashtray, a teenager who is dropped off in the 'hood by his mother to live with his father and to



▲ Marlon Wayans as Loc Dog, Chris Spencer as Preach, Suli McCullough as Crazy Legs and Shawn Wayans as Ashtray are homies growing up in the 'hood in *Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood*.

cross the threshold from childhood to manhood. Ashtray's father, played by Lahmard Tate, is a spoof of Laurence Fishburne's character in *Boyz N The Hood*, only this father figure is much younger than his son.

Ashtray immediately hooks up with his homeboy Loc Dog, played by brother Marlon, whose biggest dilemma of the day is what shoes to wear with what gun he plans to carry. His decision? A pair of pink bunny slippers. The two are joined by their other friends, Crazy Legs, played by Suli McCullough, and Preach, played by Chris Spencer. Their adventures take the audience on a constant rib-tickling ride that explores all of the themes associated with growing up in the 'hood.

Ashtray, despite repeated warnings from his friends, falls in love with the alluring Dashiki, played by Tracy Cherelle Jones, an unwed mother who has many children. The love scene

between the two is a far cry from tender and romantic as it centers around Kool-aid and hot sauce.

The film, like the "In Living Color" effort, is a family affair.

In addition to being a producer, Keenen Ivory Wayans makes a cameo appearance as a mailman known as "Message," a running gag throughout the film.

Sister Kim Wayans, also of "In Living Color" fame, stars as Mrs. Johnson, the mother who rushes into the street and sobs over every male gunned down, thinking it's her son.

Shawn and Marlon, who also star in their own television comedy, "The Wayans Bros.," say they respect and admire the filmmakers who brought these stories about the 'hood to the screen because they had not been told. But now, they say, "we've done that and it's time to move things to a different level. There are so many other stories that need to be told."



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1. WAITING TO EXHALE

Various Artists (Arista)

2. R. KELLY

R. Kelly (Jive)

3. DAYDREAM

Mariah Carey (Columbia)

4. MR. SMITH

LL Cool J. (Def Jam)

5. Q'S JOOK JOINT

Quincy Jones (Qwest)

6. FAITH

Faith Evans (Bad Boy)

7. MISS THANG

Monica (Rowdy)

8. LIQUID SWORDS

Genius/GZA (Geffen)

9. WE GOT IT

Immature (MCA)

10. OFF THE HOOK

Xscape (So So Def)

11. GANGSTA'S PARADISE

Coolio (Tommy Boy)

12. THE REMIX COLLECTION

Boyz II Men (Motown)

13. SOLO

Solo (Perspective)

14. 1990 SLICK

Spice 1 (Jive)

15. CRAZYSEXYCOOL

TLC (LaFace)

16. E. 1999 ETERNAL

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony (Ruthless)

17. DOGG FOOD

Tha Dogg Pound (Death Row)

18. GAME RELATED

The Click (Sick Wid' It)

19. DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996

Janet Jackson (A&M)

20. BROWN SUGAR

D'Angelo (EMI)



■ R. KELLY

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During Black History Month, AT&T salutes the scores of talented African Americans who have helped the world discover what we've known all along. Given the opportunity, Black Americans make history every day.



fessional career."

To her friend Nancy Earl, who she also named as the independent executor of her estate, Ms. Jordan left the "appliances, furniture and fixtures in my home" as well as "my one-half interest in the [two] real property legally described on the attached Exhibits "A" and "B", together with all buildings and improvements on the property, all related appurtenances, and all related policies or proceeds of insurance."

To her sisters Rose Mary McGowan

and Bennie Creswell, she gave "all the remainder of my tangible personal property...in equal shares per capita."

She also gave 15 percent of her "taxable estate in equal shares to the following charitable organizations: 1) Helping Our Brothers Out, Inc., 2) AIDS Services of Austin, Inc., and 3) People For The American Way, Inc."

"All of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate," Jordan bequeathed "to my mother Arlyne Jordan, in a Residuary Trust for life..."

ENTERTAINMENT

MCA Reaches \$200 Million Agreement To Purchase Half Of Interscope Records

MCA Inc. has reached a \$200 million agreement to buy half of Interscope Records, the label Time Warner sold four months ago in a disagreement over gangsta rap, according to the Los Angeles Times (JET, Oct. 16, 1995).

The agreement gives MCA an option to buy out the rest of the company in three to five years, said sources. The deal will also give MCA greater entrance into the rock music market and raise it two notches to the fourth-largest company in the music industry.

Interscope distributes the rock label Nothing-9TV and rap label Death Row. The company will continue controlling the creative content of recordings, including material on both

labels. Death Row markets such acts as Dr. Dre, Snoop Doggy Dogg, Tupac Shakur and Tha Dogg Pound.

A clause in the contract allows Interscope the freedom to distribute material MCA considers "too controversial." In fact, MCA reportedly will not distribute Shakur's latest album, *All Eyes on Me*, because of the excessive amount of profanity.

The deal was negotiated by MCA Music Group Chairman Doug Morris and his advisers.

Interscope was founded by record producer Jimmy Iovine and department store heir Ted Field. Under the deal, Iovine and Field will net \$100 million even after repaying Time Warner the same amount under their separation agreement.

PEOPLE Are Talking About...

■ How famed comedian-actor **Richard Pryor** believes God gave him multiple sclerosis (MS) in order to keep him guided on the right track. "If I didn't have MS, I would be dead from a drug overdose. I don't know why God chose to spare me, but the only way He could was to give me a disease that would keep me from doing anything."

■ How **Pope John Paul II** enjoys the song *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*, particularly legendary songstress **Roberta Flack's** rendition of the song. Flack, in for a routine filling, told her dentist, Dr. Marc Lowenberg, that the Vatican requested she sing it for His Holiness when she performed for him in Central Park.

■ How Dallas Cowboy wide receiver **Michael Irvin** after using a profane, four-letter word, says he will say what he wants whenever he wants, but his mother is saying otherwise. "I will be talking with my boy. I don't need to tell you he didn't learn to speak that way in this house," said Pearl Irvin, the Pro Bowl receiver's mother, about her son's choice of words in defending troubled coach Barry Switzer. "I almost fell through the floor the first time he said it," she continued about his using the four-letter word several times.

■ How powerful actor **James Earl Jones** closed 1995 with a bang. The star of *Cry, The Beloved Country* has been chosen by the National Film Board for its Career Achievement Award. He was just named Master Screen Artist by the USA Film Festival and honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at Belgium's Ghent Film Fest.

■ How the King of the Blues, **B.B. King**, boasts about listening to music of all kinds. He admits to listening to country, gospel, rock 'n' roll, rap and classical. In fact, he says, "I'm a big fan of (Luciano) Pavarotti's." He joked, "I like his size too." The bluesman has come a long way from the Mississippi Delta, where he switched from gospel music because the people who requested blues tipped him.

■ Celebrating birthdays this week are: **Natalie Cole**, singer, and **Robert Townsend**, actor-filmmaker-director-producer, both on Feb. 6; **Chris Rock**, comedian-actor, on Feb. 7; **Alice Walker**, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, on Feb. 9; **Roberta Flack**, singer, and **Leontyne Price**, opera singer, both on Feb. 10.



television



Mark Curry, Raven-Symoné On 'Hangin' With Mr. Cooper'

Mark Curry stars as **Mark Cooper** and **Raven-Symoné** stars as **Nicole Lee** along with **Holly Robinson Peete**, **Saundra Quarterman** and **Marquise Wilson** on "Hangin' With Mr. Cooper," (Friday, February 9 at 9:30 p.m., ET) on ABC. Others scheduled to appear this week include:

Wesley Snipes in *Boiling Point*, (Thursday, February 8 at 9 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Reginald VelJohnson/JoMarie Payton Noble/Bryton McClure/Rosetta LeNoire/Jaleel White/Darius McCrary/Kellie Shanygne Williams on "Family Matters," (Friday, February 9 at 8 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Keith Diamond on "The Home Court," (Saturday, February 10 at 9:30 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Clarence Gilyard on "Walker, Texas Ranger," (Saturday, February 10 at 10 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Will Smith/Karyn Parsons/Daphne Maxwell Reid/Alfonso Ribeiro/Joseph Marcell/Tatyana Ali/James Avery/Ross Bagley on "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," (Monday, February 12 at 8 p.m., ET) on NBC.

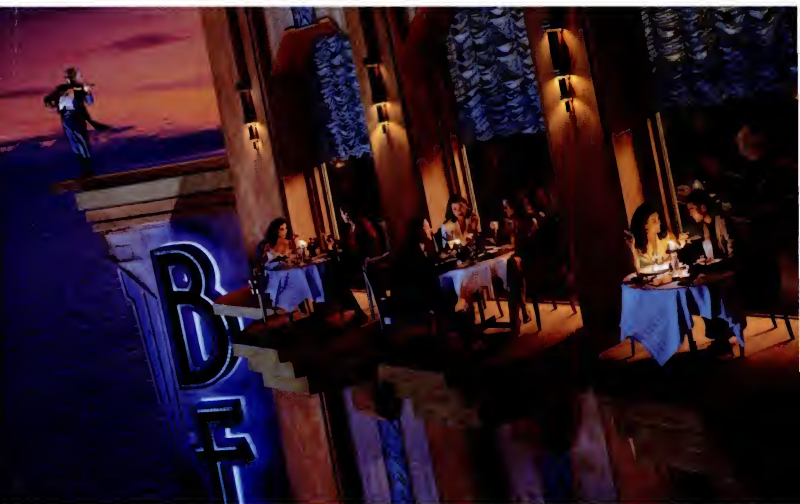
James Todd Smith (aka LL Cool J)/Debbie Allen/Maia Campbell/Jeffery Wood on "In The House," (Monday, February 12, at 8:30 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Nia Peables in *Robin Cook's Terminal*, (Monday, February 12, at 9 p.m., ET) on NBC.

James McDaniel on "NYPD Blue," (Tuesday, February 13 at 10 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Meshach Taylor on "Dave's World," (Wednesday, February 14 at 8 p.m., ET) on CBS.

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